

Re: Pineview Estates Assessment Schedule



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Aaron Setran to: Krause, John Cc: David Albright, Rich Campbell

Aaron Setran/R9/USEPA/US From:

"Krause, John" < John. Krause@bia.gov>, To:

Cc: David Albright/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Rich Campbell/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

John:

Attached are two separate spreadsheets which present last year's (2011) monitoring well and influent/effluent data for the lower (Field A) and upper (Field B) wastewater systems at Pineview Estates.

You'll notice that the lower system (Field A + the IWS) is not treating the incoming wastewater effectively. The data for this system shows that, in many instances, greater amounts of solids (BOD and SS) and nitrogen (TN) are leaving the treatment unit (and going into the leachfield) as opposed to coming into the unit from the houses at the site. MCL drinking water violations for Nitrate and Fecal coliform, measured from groundwater wells associated with this system, are numerous, and in fact, for every month sampled the Nitrate MCL is violated. This presents significant potential risk to users of drinking water wells in the area.

The upper system is limping along and does not show the same level of ineffectiveness as the lower system, although it is far from efficient.....indicated by the "removal efficiency" values.

EPA is in a position of considering a potential enforcement action against the HOA and land owner (Mark Kizer) to remedy this situation. Such action could entail shutting down operation of the lower system. If this were to happen, the wastewater from the lower system could likely not be diverted to the upper system as it appears that the upper system is at or beyond capacity itself. The only alternative may be to have wastewater from this system hauled off site via a pumper truck, probably on a daily basis.

We understand that BIA has recently approved Tetra Tech as the contractor to assess the wastewater system at the site. In order for Tetra Tech to conduct their assessment, and draw valid conclusions regarding the effectiveness of the system. EPA believes that the systems should remain in operation "as is" until the assessment is complete. However, once the assessment is complete. EPA will be forced to take action unless the situation improves dramatically over the next couple of months.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions/concerns. Thanks, Aaron





PineviewFieldBdata.Jan2012.xlsx PineviewFieldAdata.Jan2012.xlsx

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